



Press Release

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El Monte Hosts Luncheon to Support Community Businesses

El Monte, Calif. –Recognizing that quality businesses are crucial to the prosperity of the community, the City of El Monte, through its Business Advisory Council (BAC), hosted a luncheon on Thursday, March 26 at the El Monte Aquatic Center.

"We have more than \$800 million in development happening in this City, so we must do more to ensure we are business-friendly," said El Monte Mayor Pro Tem Bart Patel, who serves as Chair of the BAC. "We are changing the way the City interacts with businesses in order to retain and attract new development opportunities."

The BAC luncheon was developed for local business owners to network and hear from City staff about upcoming development projects, how to contact key City staff members and information on local resources for small businesses.

"A strong business community is critical to every City service we provide," said Councilwoman Norma Macias, BAC's Vice-Chair. "We want to find commercial opportunities that will help our community thrive. We can start this effort by making sure it's easy to work through the permitting process at City Hall."

The lunch featured awards to recognize local businesses that positively impact El Monte. The honorees included:

Sense of Pride Award: Cathay Bank and Sam's Club

Visionary Award: Ignacio's Sports Bar & Grill and Allure Dental

Historical Award: Driftwood Dairy and The Gill Corporation

Partnership Award: Longo Toyota and King Taco

BAC leaders also provided the group with a summary of committee recommendations on processes that can be put in place to help the business community. These include hiring additional staff, introducing new permitting tracking systems and improving communication between City departments.

The BAC was created to support the City's efforts to strengthen the local business community and is comprised of local business owners, residents, City officials, real estate experts, prospective/potential business interests, the El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce and others committed to helping transform El Monte into a flourishing economic center. Our small businesses are the artery of the capitalist system.

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The City of El Monte, located in Southern California, is committed to improving the quality of life for its citizens and strives to provide its community personalized service, uncompromising commitment, and individualized accountability. For information on the City of El Monte, please call 626-580-2001 or visit www.elmonteca.gov.